

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed September 7, 2005 has been reviewed and carefully considered. The Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter for claim 3 is appreciated. Claims 16-18 are added. Claims 1-18 are pending, the independent claims remaining 1 and 9. Independent claim 9 is not amended. Claims 1-3, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13 and 14 are amended. Reconsideration of the above-identified application, as amended and in view of the following remarks, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2 and 4-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,851,867 to Pang et al. ("Pang").

Claim 9 recites, ". . . the latches are disengaged from the corresponding latching grooves as the other end of each of the sliding members is engaged with the end of the corresponding latching groove."

Pang fails to disclose or suggest the above-quoted feature of claim 9.

Instead, the Pang tab 620 becomes disengaged as the bail latch 102 is pulled down by the user. That action pulls the delatching fork 104, and specifically its delatch actuator 129, free from the catch 320. It also causes the detach actuator 129 to squeeze the tab 620 out of the way. Pulling free from the catch 320, and/or squeezing the tab 620 out of the way, fail to render the actuator 129 "engaged with the end of the

corresponding latching groove." For at least this reason, Pang fails to anticipate the present invention as recited in claim 9. Moreover, due to differences between mechanisms of Pang and the present invention, modification of Pang to resemble the present invention would not have been obvious.

Claim 1, as amended, recites, ". . . a module housing for insertion into a structure that surrounds said module housing and has a latch;. . . a rotating member rotatably attached to one end of the module housing for engaging an end of the sliding member with a corresponding end of the latching groove, the rotation into engagement being operable to urge said latch out of engagement with the latching groove."

Pang, by contrast, features a bail latch 102 whose rotation so as to engage the delatching actuator 129 with the catch 320 does not urge the tab 620 "out of engagement." Nor, due to Pang's different design, would modification of Pang have been obvious.

Further, as recited in claim, the present invention provides a rotating member mounted on a module housing, thus moving sliding member. In contrast, Pang teaches a rotatable bail lever (102) mounted on a delatching fork 10, thus providing movement on a fiber optic module 300 together with the latching fork 104. As such, they operate differently.

The amendments of claims 1, 8, 14, and new claims 16-18, find support in

FIGs. 5 and 6, particularly elements 31, 313 and 321, and in accompanying text in the specification.

The amendment of claim 5 finds support in FIG. 6, particularly elements 331, 335 and 337, and in accompanying text in the specification.

The amendment of claim 10 finds support in FIG. 5, particularly element 30, and in accompanying text in the specification.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned in the event of any perceived outstanding issues so that passage of the case to issue can be effected without the need for a further Office Action.

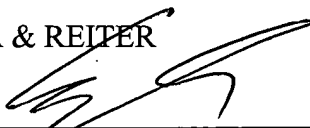
Amendment
Serial No. 09/691,822

Docket No. 5000-1-139

In the event that any additional fee is required to continue the prosecution of this Application as requested, please charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 502-470.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: December 6, 2005

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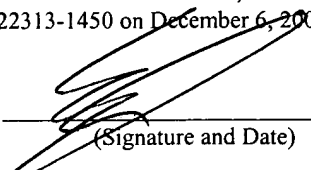
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